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a liner lock coupled to the handle, the liner lock having an aperture therethrough at a point distal the blade axle;

an eccentric adjustment mechanism rotatably coupled to the handle and the liner lock through the aperture, the eccentric adjustment mechanism including a first segment with a first axis of rotation and a second segment with a second axis of rotation;

wherein the first segment engages the handle and the second segment engages the liner lock;

whereby when the eccentric adjustment mechanism is rotated, the liner lock is moved with respect to the handle.

B10
11. (Once Amended) The folding knife of Claim 10, wherein pressure on the eccentric nut by the liner lock after threading the bridge screw into the eccentric nut results in further threading of the bridge screw into the eccentric nut.

B11
19. (Once Amended) The folding knife of Claim 18, wherein pressure on the eccentric nut by the liner lock after threading the bridge screw into the eccentric nut results in further threading of the bridge screw into the eccentric nut.

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 31, 2002 in which Claims 5, 11, and 19 were rejected. With this Amendment, Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, and 19 are amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow.

I. Objections to the Specification

In section 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification, requesting several minor changes. In response, Applicant has amended the specification as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

II. Claim Objections

In section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 1-11, citing the need for a comma in the last line of the Claims 1 and 6. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 6 as suggested by the Examiner and accordingly requests that the Examiner withdraw his objection to Claims 1-11.

III. Rejection of Claims 5, 11, and 19 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 5, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner indicated that the language used in dependent Claims 5, 11, and 19 is "vague and indefinite as to how the nut and screw are 'configured.'" In response, Applicant has amended Claims 5, 11, and 19 to more clearly recite the limitation. Claims 5, 11, and 19 now recite "wherein pressure on the eccentric nut by the liner lock after threading the bridge screw into the eccentric nut results in further threading of the bridge screw into the eccentric nut." The limitation of Claims 5, 11, and 19 is intended to claim the structure described in the specification in the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 27. The recited configuration is beneficial because any back pressure by the liner lock on the eccentric adjustment mechanism results in a tightening of the link between the eccentric nut and the bridge screw, which is a stable configuration. In light of the amended claim language, Applicant respectfully asserts that Claims 5, 11, and 19, as amended, overcome the rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

In sections 6-8 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-12 and 15-19 contain allowable subject matter. In light of the amendments to the claims set forth herein to address the Examiner's objections and rejections, Applicant now respectfully requests allowance of Claims 1-12 and 15-19.


CONCLUSION

Claims 1-12 and 15-19 are pending in the present application. Claims 13, 14, and 20-27 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 10/30/02

By 

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